



Auditor-General of South Africa

Mandeni Municipality - Audit
report 2014-15

Report of the auditor-general to the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Legislature and the Council on Mandeni Municipality

Report on the financial statements

Introduction

1. I have audited the financial statements of the Mandeni Municipality set out on pages ... to ... , which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, cash flow statement and the statement of comparison of budget information and actual information for the year then ended as well as the notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Accounting officer's responsibility for the financial statements

2. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (SA Standards of GRAP) and the requirements of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act of South Africa, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) (MFMA) and the Division of Revenue Act of South Africa, 2014 (Act No. 10 of 2014) (DoRA), and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor-general's responsibility

3. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements, and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.
4. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the municipality's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the municipality's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.
5. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

6. In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Mandeni Municipality as at 30 June 2015 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the SA Standards of GRAP and the requirements of the MFMA and DoRA.

Emphasis of matters

I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Material underspending of the capital budget

7. As disclosed in the statement of comparison of budget and actual amounts, the municipality has materially underspent the budget on capital expenditure to the amount of R8,06 million (2014: R20,35 million). The main reasons for the underspending was due to capacity issues and transfer of skills that was not taking place. This has resulted in the municipality not achieving all of its planned service delivery targets for the year.

Material debt impairment

8. As disclosed in note 5 to the financial statements, material impairment to the amount of R19,79 million (2014: R17,86 million) were incurred as a result of a write-off of irrecoverable trade debtors.

Additional matter

9. I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Unaudited disclosure notes

10. In terms of section 125(2)(e) of the MFMA the municipality is required to disclose particulars of non-compliance with the MFMA. The disclosure requirement did not form part of the audit of the financial statements and accordingly I do not express an opinion thereon.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

11. In accordance with the Public Audit Act of South Africa, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I have a responsibility to report findings on the reported performance information against predetermined objectives for selected objectives presented in the annual performance report, compliance with legislation and internal control. The objective of my tests was to identify reportable findings as described under each subheading but not to gather evidence to express assurance on these matters. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion or conclusion on these matters.

Predetermined objectives

12. I performed procedures to obtain evidence about the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for basic service delivery objective presented in the annual performance report of the municipality for the year ended 30 June 2015.
13. I evaluated the reported performance information against the overall criteria of usefulness and reliability.
14. I evaluated the usefulness of the reported performance information to determine whether it was presented in accordance with the National Treasury's annual reporting principles and whether the reported performance was consistent with the planned objectives. I further performed tests to determine whether indicators and targets were well defined, verifiable, specific, measurable, time bound and relevant, as required by the National Treasury's *Framework for managing programme performance information* (FMPPI).
15. I assessed the reliability of the reported performance information to determine whether it was valid, accurate and complete.
16. I did not identify any material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the following programmes:
 - Objectives 5: To improve Infrastructure Planning and Co-ordination
 - Objectives 6: To promote sustainable integrated human settlements

Additional matter

17. Although I identified no material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for the selected objectives, I draw attention to the following matter:

Achievement of planned targets

18. Refer to the annual performance report on pages x to x for information on the achievement of planned targets for the year.

Compliance with legislation

19. I performed procedures to obtain evidence that the municipality had complied with applicable legislation regarding financial matters, financial management and other related matters. I did not identify any instances of material non-compliance with specific matters in key legislation, as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA.

Internal control

20. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with legislation. I did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control.

Auditor General

Pietermaritzburg

30 November 2015



AUDITOR - GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

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